In the Claims:

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- 1. A method of data distribution preserving rights of a remote party comprising the steps of: an authorized user locally transmitting data to new user; and authorizing the receiver's use of the data by a trusted agent.
- 2. A method of data distribution preserving rights of a remote party comprising the steps of: an authorized user locally transmitting the data to an unauthorized receiver and the unauthorized receiver contacting a trusted authorizing agent before the full utility of the data is made available to the receiver.
- 3. A method of data distribution preserving rights of a remote party comprising the steps of: the sender choosing an encryption key for the receiver's use; the sender encrypting the data using the key; the sender encrypting the encryption key using a public encryption key of a trusted agent; the sender locally transmitting both the encrypted data and the encrypted key to the receiver; the receiver and the trusted agent negotiating licensing and payment for the data; the receiver transmitting the encrypted key to the trusted agent; the trusted agent decrypting the encryption key; and the trusted agent sending the decrypted encryption key to the receiver to receive the full data.
- 4. The method of Claim 3 including the further step of the receiver choosing a new encryption key unknown to the sender and encrypting the data with the new encryption key.
- 5. A method of data distribution preserving rights of a remote party comprising the steps of: the receiver negotiating licensing and payment with a trusted agent; the agent transmitting a ticket to a receiver; the sender interrogating the receiver to determine if the ticket is valid and halts if not; the sender transmitting the un-encrypted data to the receiver.

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6. The method of Claim 5 including the step of the receiver chooses a key and encrypts the data.